2.14 RECREATION

Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
RE	CREATION— Would the proposed project:				
a)	Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				
b)	Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				

SETTING

The City and County of San Francisco's Recreation and Park Department manages San Francisco's recreation facilities and parks. The department oversees the operations of nearly 300 recreational facilities throughout San Francisco (San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, 2004). There are seven parks and recreational facilities overseen by the Recreation and Park Department within 1/2 mile of the project area which include: Youngblood Coleman Playground, located at Mendell Street and Galvez Avenue; Joseph Lee Recreation Center, located at 1395 Mendell Street; Palou and Phelps Mini Park, located at Palau and Phelps Streets; Hilltop Park, located at La Salle and Whitney Young Circle; Adam Rogers Park, located at Ingalls Street and Oakdale Avenue; and Hunter's Point / Milton Myer Recreation Center, located at 200 Middle Point Road. In addition, the project area is within close proximity to Heron's Head Park, India Basin / Shoreline Park, and India Basin Open Space. Also, there is one park known as Muwekma Park, located on the north shore of Islais Creek, adjacent to Pier 80, that is managed by the Urban Resources Partnership and Muwekma Ohlone Tribe. See Figure 1-1 for the location of the park. A small, group of community gardeners have maintained this site for several years, with the support and permission of the Port of San Francisco.

The project area is also located in the immediate vicinity of a portion of the San Francisco Bay Trail. The Bay Trail is a planned recreational corridor that, when complete, will encircle San Francisco and San Pablo Bays with a continuous 400-mile network of bicycling and hiking trails. It will connect the shoreline of all nine Bay Area counties, link 47 cities, and cross the major toll bridges in the region. To date, approximately 210 miles of the route, or slightly more than half the Bay Trail's ultimate length, has been completed (ABAG, 2004). The proposed project route would intersect with a portion of the Bay Trail¹ that runs along Illinois Street between 22nd and 23rd Streets.

This portion of the Bay Trail is designated as an unimproved on street Bay Trail segment.

IMPACTS DISCUSSION OF RECREATION

METHODOLOGY AND SIGNIFICANCE CRITERIA

The analysis of the potential intensity of impacts to parks and recreation were derived from available maps and published data characterizing the project area. To determine the level of significance of the impacts anticipated from the proposed project, the proposed project's effects were evaluated as provided under the CEQA Guidelines. This significance criteria, as set forth in CEQA Guidelines Appendix G, are summarized in the checklist provided at the beginning of this section.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

While there would be a temporary increase in population as a result of project construction, the increase would be small, short-term, and would not put additional demand on existing park use. The proposed project would also not involve the construction or expansion of existing recreational facilities. As a result, recreation impacts would be less than significant. There are a number of parks or recreational facilities within 0.5 mile of the proposed project route, including the Bay Trail. While the proposed project would not increase population, construction activities would result in temporary closure or restriction of some parks, including the Bay Trail along Illinois Street. With implementation of **Mitigation Measures PS-2a and PS-2b** and because the closures and/or restrictions would be temporary, this project impact would be less than significant.

For additional parks and recreation impacts discussion, please see Section 2.13, *Public Services*.

CHECKLIST IMPACT CONCLUSIONS

- a) The proposed project would not increase the use of or affect the demand for existing parks and recreation facilities because the proposed project would not directly or indirectly induce growth. Physical deterioration of recreation facilities would not occur because there would not be any permanent increases in population. As a result, recreation impacts would be less than significant.
- b) The proposed project would not include the construction of new recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of existing recreational facilities because no permanent increase in population would result. Therefore, recreation impacts would be less than significant.

REFERENCES – Recreation

Essex Environmental, 2003. Potrero to Hunters Point 115 kV Cable Project Proponent's Environmental Assessment. December 2003.